

ABSTRACT

A switching center for use in a communication network includes a pool of echo cancellation units for use in providing echo cancellation services to users associated with the switching center on an "as needed" basis. A communication connection being supported by the switching center is analyzed to determine whether intolerable reflections are being received from an associated trunk. If such reflections are detected, one of the echo cancellation units in the pool is assigned to the communication connection for use in reducing or eliminating the reflections. When the communication connection terminates, the echo cancellation unit is returned to the pool for subsequent use with another communication connection.